

there is a major reduction in the degree of protection provided to public health and safety for any facility or activity licensed, other than for export, pursuant to parts 30, 40, 50, 60, 61, 70, 71, or 72 of this chapter.

Supplying or *supplies* means contractually responsible for a basic component used or to be used in a facility or activity which is subject to the regulations in this part.

[42 FR 28893, June 6, 1977; 42 FR 36803, July 18, 1977, as amended at 43 FR 48622, Oct. 19, 1978; 46 FR 58283, Dec. 1, 1981; 47 FR 57480, Dec. 27, 1982; 56 FR 36089, July 31, 1991; 59 FR 5519, Feb. 7, 1994; 60 FR 48373, Sept. 19, 1995; 61 FR 65171, Dec. 11, 1996]

§ 21.4 Interpretations.

Except as specifically authorized by the Commission in writing, no interpretation of the meaning of the regulations in this part by any officer or employee of the Commission other than a written interpretation by the General Counsel will be recognized to be binding upon the Commission.

§ 21.5 Communications.

Except where otherwise specified in this part, all written communications and reports concerning the regulations in this part must be addressed to the Document Control Desk, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. In the case of a licensee, a copy must also be sent to the appropriate Regional Administrator at the address specified in appendix D to part 20 of this chapter.

[56 FR 36089, July 31, 1991]

§ 21.6 Posting requirements.

(a)(1) Each individual, partnership, corporation, dedicating entity, or other entity subject to the regulations in this part shall post current copies of—

- (i) The regulations in this part;
- (ii) Section 206 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974; and
- (iii) Procedures adopted pursuant to the regulations in this part.

(2) These documents must be posted in a conspicuous position on any premises within the United States where the activities subject to this part are conducted.

(b) If posting of the regulations in this part or the procedures adopted pursuant to the regulations in this part is not practicable, the licensee or firm subject to the regulations in this part may, in addition to posting section 206, post a notice which describes the regulations/procedures, including the name of the individual to whom reports may be made, and states where they may be examined.

(c) The effective date of this section has been deferred until January 6, 1978.

[42 FR 28893, June 6, 1977, as amended at 60 FR 48374, Sept. 19, 1995]

§ 21.7 Exemptions.

The Commission may, upon application of any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant such exemptions from the requirements of the regulations in this part as it determines are authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and are otherwise in the public interest. Suppliers of commercial grade items are exempt from the provisions of this part to the extent that they supply commercial grade items.

[42 FR 28893, June 6, 1977, as amended at 43 FR 48622, Oct. 19, 1978]

§ 21.8 Information collection requirements: OMB approval.

(a) The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has submitted the information collection requirements contained in this part to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. OMB has approved the information collection requirements contained in this part under control number 3150-0035.

(b) The approved information collection requirements contained in this part appear in §§ 21.7, 21.21 and 21.51.

[62 FR 52185, Oct. 6, 1997]

NOTIFICATION

§21.21 Notification of failure to comply or existence of a defect and its evaluation.

(a) Each individual, corporation, partnership, dedicating entity, or other entity subject to the regulations in this part shall adopt appropriate procedures to—

(1) Evaluate deviations and failures to comply to identify defects and failures to comply associated with substantial safety hazards as soon as practicable, and, except as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, in all cases within 60 days of discovery, in order to identify a reportable defect or failure to comply that could create a substantial safety hazard, were it to remain uncorrected, and

(2) Ensure that if an evaluation of an identified deviation or failure to comply potentially associated with a substantial safety hazard cannot be completed within 60 days from discovery of the deviation or failure to comply, an interim report is prepared and submitted to the Commission through a director or responsible officer or designated person as discussed in §21.21(c)(5). The interim report should describe the deviation or failure to comply that is being evaluated and should also state when the evaluation will be completed. This interim report must be submitted in writing within 60 days of discovery of the deviation or failure to comply.

(3) Ensure that a director or responsible officer subject to the regulations of this part is informed as soon as practicable, and, in all cases, within the 5 working days after completion of the evaluation described in §21.21(a)(1) or §21.21(a)(2) if the construction or operation of a facility or activity, or a basic component supplied for such facility or activity—

(i) Fails to comply with the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or any applicable rule, regulation, order, or license of the Commission relating to a substantial safety hazard, or

(ii) Contains a defect.

(b) If the deviation or failure to comply is discovered by a supplier of basic components, or services associated with basic components, and the sup-

plier determines that it does not have the capability to perform the evaluation to determine if a defect exists, then the supplier must inform the purchasers or affected licensees within five working days of this determination so that the purchasers or affected licensees may evaluate the deviation or failure to comply, pursuant to §21.21(a).

(c) A dedicating entity is responsible for—

(1) Identifying and evaluating deviations and reporting defects and failures to comply associated with substantial safety hazards for dedicated items; and

(2) Maintaining auditable records for the dedication process.

(d)(1) A director or responsible officer subject to the regulations of this part or a person designated under §21.21(c)(5) must notify the Commission when he or she obtains information reasonably indicating a failure to comply or a defect affecting—

(i) The construction or operation of a facility or an activity within the United States that is subject to the licensing requirements under parts 30, 40, 50, 60, 61, 70, 71, or 72 of this chapter and that is within his or her organization's responsibility; or

(ii) A basic component that is within his or her organization's responsibility and is supplied for a facility or an activity within the United States that is subject to the licensing requirements under parts 30, 40, 50, 60, 61, 70, 71, or 72 of this chapter.

(2) The notification to NRC of a failure to comply or of a defect under paragraph (c)(1) of this section and the evaluation of a failure to comply or a defect under paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section, are not required if the director or responsible officer has actual knowledge that the Commission has been notified in writing of the defect or the failure to comply.

(3) Notification required by paragraph (c)(1) of this section must be made as follows—

(i) Initial notification by facsimile, which is the preferred method of notification, to the NRC Operations Center at (301) 816-5151 or by telephone at (301) 816-5100 within two days following receipt of information by the director or